

AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION FY 2010
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Description and Instructions
(DEADLINE: December 11, 2009)

U. S. Embassy Kathmandu is now accepting project proposals for the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) 2010 competition. The deadline for submitting proposals to the U.S. Embassy is December 11, 2009. Full implementation of the program is pending the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2010 funds. Interested institutions (grantees) are urged to consult with the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy as soon as possible for details and guidance for the AFCP 2010 competition.

Since FY 2001, the U.S. Congress has directed the Department of State to support and implement the AFCP program. In FY 2009, awards ranged from US \$10,000 to US \$106,300, with an average award amount of US \$41,400. Fiscal Year 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the AFCP program.

PRIORITY AREAS: AFCP supports projects to preserve cultural heritage in the following three categories:

- A. **CULTURAL SITES** including (but not limited to) historic buildings and sites, sacred places, monuments, and archaeological sites;
- B. **CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS** from a museum, site, or similar institution, including archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, photographic and film collections, and general museum conservation activities; and,
- C. **FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION** includes traditional music, rituals, knowledge, languages, dance, drama, and crafts.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES: AFCP gives top priority to project activities that keep with international standards for the preservation of cultural heritage. These activities may involve:

- A. In the case of **CULTURAL SITES**, restoration of a historic building, an archaeological survey as a component of a preservation plan, preservation management planning for a site, or documentation of sites in a region for preservation purposes.
- B. In the case of **CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS**, conservation treatment for an object or collection of objects; needs assessment of a collection with respect to its condition and strategies for improving its state of conservation; inventory of a collection for conservation purposes; the creation of safe environments for storage or display of collections; or specialized training in the care and preservation of collections.
- C. In the case of **FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION**, documentation and audiovisual recording of traditional music and dance forms for preservation and eventual dissemination, or support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts that are threatened by extinction.

An appropriate preservation activity is one that protects the values of the site, object or collection, or form of traditional cultural expression as they are understood by stakeholders. Stakeholders may include national, regional, or local cultural authorities, the local community, and others with vested interest in the site and the outcome of a project.

We also invite you to submit proposals for phased and pilot projects whose methods and outcomes will advance long-term cultural preservation objectives, lay the groundwork for subsequent AFCP-supported activities, or encourage the continued or expanded application of proven methods at the project site or elsewhere. When considering such projects, we urge you to contact us as early as possible in the process.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING SITES AND OBJECTS THAT HAVE A RELIGIOUS CONNECTION: The establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution permits the government to include religious objects and sites within an aid program under certain conditions. For example, an item with a religious connection (including a place of worship) may be the subject of a cultural preservation grant if the item derives its primary significance and is nominated solely on the basis of architectural, artistic, historical or other cultural (not religious) criteria.

Qualified entities are reputable and accountable non-governmental organizations, museums, Ministries of Culture, or similar institutions that are able to demonstrate that they have the requisite experience and capacity to manage projects to preserve cultural heritage.

COST SHARING: The program encourages cost sharing, contributions in kind, and other forms of cost participation.

HOW TO APPLY: Your proposals must be received by the U.S. Embassy in Kathmandu no later than **December 11, 2009**. All proposals must be sent via e-mail and must include complete information as described in **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**, below. Only proposals in the English language will be accepted. **Before creating and sending a proposal, please contact the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy for additional details and requirements.**

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS: As in previous years, project proposals must include or address the following:

- A. Purpose and summary;
- B. Description;
- C. Timeframe;
- D. Statement of significance;
- E. Statement of urgency;
- F. Rationale for U.S. support;
- G. Detailed project budget;
- H. Recipient information;
- I. Resumes of the project director and professional staff;
- J. Official permission to undertake the project;
- K. Other funding sources, if any; and,
- L. At least three digital images (JPEGs) or audiovisual files of the site, object, or form of expression to be addressed in the proposed project.

RESTRICTIONS: AFCP does not support the following:

- A. Preservation or purchase of privately or commercially owned cultural objects, collections, or real property, including those whose transfer from private or commercial to public ownership is envisioned, planned, or in process but not complete at the time of proposal submission;
- B. Preservation of natural heritage (physical, biological, and geological formations, paleontological collections, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants, fossils, etc.);
- C. Preservation of hominid or human remains;
- D. Preservation of news media (newspapers, newsreels, etc.);
- E. Preservation of published materials available elsewhere (books, periodicals, etc.);
- F. Archaeological excavations or surveys for research purposes;
- G. Historical research, except in cases where the research is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project;
- H. Acquisition or creation of new collections for new or existing museums;
- I. Construction of new buildings;
- J. Commissions of new works of art or architecture for commemorative or economic development purposes;
- K. Creation of replicas or re-creation of cultural objects or sites that no longer exist;
- L. Relocation of cultural sites from one physical location to another;
- M. Removal of cultural objects or elements of cultural sites from the country for any reason;
- N. Digitization of cultural objects or collections, unless part of a larger, clearly defined conservation effort;
- O. Conservation plans or other studies, unless they are one component of a larger project to implement the results of those studies;
- P. Cash reserves, endowments or revolving funds; funds must be expended within the grant period and may not be used to create an endowment or revolving fund or otherwise spent over many years;
- Q. Costs of fund-raising campaigns;
- R. Operating expenses, i.e. expenses incurred during the day-to-day operational activities of an organization, such as office rent, utilities, license fees, and other costs for administrative time, services, or materials not directly related to performing project work;
- S. Contingency, unforeseen, or miscellaneous fees;
- T. Costs of work performed prior to announcement of the award;
- U. International travel, except in cases where travel is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project;
- V. Individual projects costing less than \$10,000, or
- W. Awards to individuals or commercial entities. As a general rule, AFCP does not support independent U.S. projects abroad.

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION: Awards will be announced as soon as possible once the U.S. State Department's fiscal year 2010 funding levels are known and a financial plan approved.

REPORTING: AFCP 2010 grant recipients must submit performance progress, financial status, and final reports on time as specified in the AFCP 2010 Notice of Award.

POINT OF CONTACT: Please e-mail inquiries and completed project proposals to Amanda Jacobsen, Cultural Affairs Officer, at JacobsenA@state.gov, copying Amod Dev Bhattarai, Cultural Affairs Specialist, at bhattaraiaad@state.gov

We look forward to receiving your proposals. Thank you.